

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Moses Hewyard on December 28, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 21:

On lines 10-12, "wherein the cylinder may be attached to the belt portion such that during use with the breathing equipment, the cylinder may be alternated between first and second configurations," was changed to -- wherein the cylinder may be attached to the belt portion such that, without disruption of the breathable gas, the cylinder may be alternated between first and second configurations second configurations,--.

Claim 35:

On line 10, "remaining coupled to the cylinder when both the mounting portion" was changed to -- remaining coupled to the cylinder without disruption of breathable gas when both the mounting portion --.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art made of record does not disclose or teach the harness having the specific structure and relationship as claimed in claims 21 and 35, including the alternation of the breathing cylinder from first configuration (mouthing means and retaining means) and second configuration (retaining means alone) without disruption of the flow of breathable gas.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Annette F. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3392. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Annette F Dixon  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3771

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Examiner, Art Unit 3771

/Steven O. Douglas/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3771